



January 21, 2016

George Heufelder
Barnstable County Department of Health and the Environment
PO Box 427
3195 Main Street
Barnstable, MA 02630

RE: Letter of Commitment for Barnstable County Department of Health and the Environment's "Full Scale Assessment of Non-Proprietary Passive Nitrogen Removing Septic Systems" Grant Application Under the Southeast New England Program for Coastal Watershed Restoration, Funding Opportunity EPA-R1-SNEP-2016.

Dear Mr. Heufelder,

I am pleased to submit this letter of commitment to partner with the Barnstable County Department of Health and the Environment, the University of Rhode Island, and colleagues from the Florida Onsite Sewage Nitrogen Removal Strategies project on the "Full Scale Assessment of Non-Proprietary Passive Nitrogen Removing Septic Systems" grant application to the Southeast New England Program for Coastal Watershed Restoration. This Project will demonstrate the performance of an innovative nitrogen removing passive septic systems with region-wide application.

The Coalition is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to the restoration, protection and sustainable use and enjoyment of Buzzards Bay and its watershed. We represent more than 8,000 individuals, families, organizations and businesses in Southeastern Massachusetts.

It is clear that onsite septic systems will remain major sources of nitrogen to Buzzards Bay and the rest of southeastern New England into the foreseeable future. This project will demonstrate the efficacy of using a modified leachfield to remove up to 90% of nitrogen in a passive manner. These designs are non-proprietary and may be applied to a wide range of systems achieving substantial nitrogen reductions at potentially lower costs.

The Coalition will work with project partners to identify and secure twelve voluntary property owners with on-site septic systems to upgrade to this innovative layered soil treatment area and assist with the permitting and installation oversight. These twelve sites will be within the Buzzards Bay watershed and may be sited in the towns of Westport, Dartmouth, Acushnet,

www.savebuzzardsbay.org

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Rochester, Wareham and/or Carver. The Coalition is committed to providing a minimum of \$22,000 of in kind services towards the success of this project.

The Coalition hopes that EPA acts favorably on this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Rasmussen", is written above the printed name.

Mark Rasmussen, President